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EXTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

SUMMARY TABLES RELATING
TO THE
FOREIGN TRADE OF GERMANY



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SUMMARY TABLES RELATING TO THE FOREIGN TRADE OF GERMANY(a)

The object of this report is to set forth in concise form the principal features of Germany's foreign trade.

German exports converted into Canadian currency at the official rate of exchange amounted to over two billion dollars in 1938. A substantial part of this total was with neighbouring countries or with countries reached by land transport. So far as the war is concerned these markets are still open to Germany. The present release is mainly concerned with German trade with the British Empire and Latin America, which made up the greater part of its sea-borne trade.

The following tables have with one exception been compiled from the German official trade reports of the past two and a half years. In the lists of commodities no attempt is made to present a comprehensive detailed breakdown and only summary items are shown.

Quantities are given in metric quintals equal to 220.46 pounds. Values are taken as given in the original reports and are in Reichsmarks with a nominal value in 1938 of \$4039. As is well-known, German trade has been transacted on the basis of other exchange values than the official ones, rates quoted early in September in New York for the various species of mark running as low as \$.13.

The tables show that exports from Germany are comprised predominantly of highly fabricated articles, while imports into Germany are mainly foodstuffs and unfinished goods. The most important commodities sold abroad are machinery, including power tools and other goods of iron and steel, and chemicals including dyestuffs. The one raw material exported in considerable quantity is coal. Leading the list of imports is iron ore, followed in order by wool, oil, cotton, oil seeds, and copper, all six being industrial raw materials. Almost 40 per cent of imports are foodstuffs.

Commodities and countries in the following tables have been arranged in the order of their importance in German trade in 1938. Following is a list of the tables:-

- I. Exports from Germany to Forty Principal Countries.
- II. Exports from Germany of Forty Principal Commodities.
- III. Imports into Germany from Fifteen Principal Countries.
- IV. Imports into Germany of Fifteen Principal Commodities.
- V. Exports from Germany to Principal Parts of the British Empire.
- VI. Exports from Germany of Twenty Principal Commodities to the United Kingdom.
- VII. Exports from Germany of Ten Principal Commodities to British India.
- VIII. Exports from Germany of Fifteen Principal Commodities to Canada.
- IX. Total Imports into Certain Latin-American Countries and Per Cent from Germany (from Latin-American Statistics).
- X. Exports from Germany of Fifteen Principal Commodities to Sixteen Latin-American Countries.

(a) German trade with Austria is included in the reports for 1937, but not included for 1938. From April 1st, 1939, Germany, Austria, and Memelland were considered as one statistical unit for foreign trade purposes, and Bohemia and Moravia were not considered as foreign countries.

Table I - EXPORTS, FROM GERMANY, TO FORTY PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.
(Calendar Years 1937, 1938 and 6 months, June, 1939)

Countries	Rank			Calendar Years		6 months, June 1939
	1937	1938	6 mo. 1939	1937	1938	
(Value in million reichmarks)						
TOTAL EXPORTS				5,911.0	5,256.9	2,814.0
Netherlands	1	1	1	468.0	447.8	212.7
United Kingdom	2	2	2	432.2	350.9	163.9
Italy	4	3	3	311.3	301.0	160.9
Sweden	6	4	4	277.3	267.3	153.4
Belgium	5	5	6	287.8	227.4	107.4
France	3	6	10	313.4	216.7	95.5
Switzerland	7	7	5	231.0	207.2	119.8
Denmark	8	8	7	212.7	201.9	104.4
Brazil	10	9	14	177.0	161.3	76.4
Turkey	21	10	11	111.1	151.4	90.3
United States	9	11	13	208.8	149.0	84.9
Roumania	17	12	8	129.5	148.8	98.2
Argentina	14	13	17	147.1	147.3	68.7
Czechoslovakia	11	14	-	151.0	135.6	-
Norway	15	15	15	139.5	122.8	73.3
Yugoslavia	16	16	12	134.4	118.0	86.6
Greece	20	17	20	113.1	111.1	54.1
Hungary	22	18	9	110.5	110.0	97.3
British India	13	19	16	147.6	106.6	71.3
Poland	24	20	18	73.2	102.6	62.1
China	12	21	25	148.3	99.4	34.1
Japan	19	22	19	117.2	93.0	57.0
Finland	23	23	23	78.2	82.4	37.7
Union of South Africa	25	24	21	71.3	81.9	43.3
Spain	30	25	22	54.6	78.3	40.6
Chile	28	26	28	56.4	60.5	24.4
Bulgaria	26	27	24	68.2	56.4	36.5
Dutch East Indies	29	28	27	56.3	54.0	26.1
Iran	31	29	33	50.2	46.3	17.6
Mexico	27	30	26	65.7	45.8	29.7
Egypt	32	31	29	49.2	45.2	24.0
Colombia	37	32	27	33.1	41.3	26.1
Latvia	38	33	30	28.4	40.8	22.8
Australia	34	34	32	40.2	39.8	18.8
Portugal	35	35	33	37.5	38.5	17.6
Venezuela	33	36	31	42.7	38.3	21.4
Uruguay	40	37	34	24.0	35.8	16.8
U. S. S. R.	18	38	35	117.4	31.8	16.0
Danzig	39	39	-	26.5	31.5	-
Peru	36	40	36	33.2	30.9	12.3

Table II - EXPORTS FROM GERMANY, OF FORTY PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.
(Calendar Years 1937, 1938 and 6 months, June, 1939)

Commodities	Rank			Calendar Years		6 months, June 1939
	1937	1938	6 mo. 1939	1937	1938	
(Value in thousand reichmarks)						
TOTAL EXPORTS				5,910,975	5,256,944	2,813,989
Miscellaneous iron goods	1	1	1	442,624	414,284	188,442
Coal, including briquettes	2	2	4	440,455	379,482	142,774
Electrical products for industry.	3	3	2	312,290	317,432	156,029
Automobiles and aeroplanes	5	4	3	206,141	255,799	149,542
Machine tools	4	5	5	209,133	203,544	121,276
Misc. chemical producers' goods .	6	6	6	195,299	166,802	95,802
Wrought and cast iron	7	7	7	154,616	131,656	77,418
Pharmaceutical products	10	8	8	139,790	126,731	70,039
Miscellaneous machinery	12	9	9	119,848	123,073	65,495
Precision mechanical and optical products	13	10	11	116,509	118,589	62,522
Machinery for textile, leather and leather goods industries ..	11	11	13	136,048	112,992	57,017
Coal tar dyeing materials	8	12	10	148,266	109,116	64,167
Coke	9	13	15	145,273	96,533	49,440
Iron sheets	15	14	17	99,534	88,581	42,837
Ships	20	15	21	85,192	82,146	37,634
Cotton fabrics, etc.	19	16	14	86,082	81,093	54,955
Wool and other animal hair fabrics	17	17	20	90,730	78,750	38,235
Engines	25	18	25	66,362	75,557	28,097
Articles of copper and copper alloy	18	19	18	88,943	74,040	39,733
Steel piping	16	20	19	95,036	73,428	39,402
Paper and pulp	14	21	12	107,040	73,031	61,660
Paper and printing machinery	23	22	29	67,648	66,139	26,165
Articles of glass	24	23	16	67,196	65,676	46,036
Paper goods	21	24	24	74,993	59,672	32,858
Nitrogen fertilizers	27	25	28	60,048	53,027	26,693
Rods, plates, wire, etc. of copper and copper alloys	26	26	23	64,256	51,960	33,319
Silk and artificial silk fabrics, etc.	22	27	22	71,360	50,429	34,578
Tools and agricultural implements	28	28	26	56,126	48,854	27,168
Rubber goods	30	29	27	47,816	42,937	26,920
Misc. dyes, varnish, lacquer	29	30	30	48,672	41,594	23,186
Pumps and pneumatic machinery ...	35	31	35	38,099	38,738	20,965
Miscellaneous vehicles	39	32	34	23,285	38,308	21,805
Stoneware, clay, earthenware, porcelain	32	33	33	43,492	37,788	22,293
Cordage of silk, artificial silk, cellulose	38	34	32	35,470	37,216	22,372
Locomotives	40	35	33	15,083	36,202	22,921
Toys, etc.	33	36	40	38,577	34,606	7,377
Misc. articles ready for use n.o.p.	36	37	32	36,870	34,561	17,151
Machinery for food and luxury industries	37	38	38	35,908	33,318	14,213
Iron wire	31	39	36	45,697	33,119	19,845
Clocks	34	40	39	37,871	32,625	11,623

Table III - IMPORTS INTO GERMANY FROM FIFTEEN PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.
(Calendar Years 1937, 1938 and 6 months, June, 1939)

Countries	Rank			Calendar Years		6 months June 1939
	1937	1938	6 mo. 1939	1937	1938	
(Value in million reichsmarks)						
TOTAL IMPORTS				5,468.4	5,449.3	2,755.2
United States	2	1	3	281.9	404.6	124.9
United Kingdom	1	2	2	308.6	282.8	134.2
Sweden	4	3	4	231.9	261.7	121.2
Italy	5	4	1	221.0	245.6	153.0
Argentina	3	5	11	295.2	216.1	79.4
Brazil	8	6	7	186.2	214.4	91.4
Netherlands	6	7	8	215.8	197.9	90.9
Belgium	7	8	9	197.6	194.4	88.8
Denmark	11	9	6	157.7	166.3	93.8
France	12	10	14	155.7	143.7	59.7
British India	10	11	13	168.6	141.9	61.4
Roumania	9	12	10	179.5	140.4	85.9
Czechoslovakia	13	13	-	141.4	129.7	(a)
Hungary	15	14	5	114.1	109.8	109.3
Yugoslavia	14	15	12	132.2	107.9	61.9

(a) Not separately recorded.

Table IV - IMPORTS INTO GERMANY OF FIFTEEN PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.
(Calendar Years 1937, 1938 and 6 months, June, 1939)

Commodities	Rank			Calendar Years		6 months June 1939
	1937	1938	6 mo. 1939	1937	1938	
(Value in thousand reichsmarks)						
TOTAL IMPORTS				5,468,377	5,449,301	-
Iron ore	4	1	2	221,873	281,458	136,063
Wool, etc., raw or worked	1	2	1	285,181	266,683	158,869
Fuel and lubricating oil	6	3	4	190,202	224,787	111,328
Cotton, raw and worked	2	4	5	275,106	219,057	105,806
Seeds for expressing oil	3	5	6	229,619	206,531	100,451
Copper, copper scrap and alloy	8	6	8	174,562	182,342	65,191
Tropical fruit	13	7	3	120,512	161,121	114,495
Raw tobacco	11	8	7	131,958	153,533	80,698
Wheat	9	9	14	156,211	149,084	35,952
Coffee	10	10	11	151,374	147,723	52,661
Corn	7	11	15	178,046	146,520	21,590
Fruits, not tropical	15	12	13	97,457	139,791	48,012
Sawn timber	12	13	12	124,842	135,696	48,709
Hides and skins	5	14	10	191,671	132,594	55,088
Butter	14	15	9	115,002	121,262	55,223

Table V - EXPORTS FROM GERMANY TO PRINCIPAL PARTS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.
(Calendar Years 1937, 1938 and 6 months, June, 1939)

Continents and Countries	Calendar Years		6 months, June
	1937	1938	1939
(Value in million reichsmarks)			
<u>EUROPE</u>			
United Kingdom	432.2	350.9	163.9
British Possessions in the Mediterranean	3.6	3.7	2.0
Eire	14.1	29.1	8.2
<u>AFRICA</u>			
British Southwest Africa	3.0	3.3	1.8
British West Africa	5.0	4.2	1.4
Cameroons	2.9	2.5	1.3
Egypt	49.0	45.2	24.0
Gold Coast	11.4	4.7	2.7
Kenya	5.2	3.7	(a)
Nigeria	13.4	6.5	3.2
Union of South Africa	71.3	81.9	43.3
<u>ASIA</u>			
British India	147.6	106.6	71.3
British Malaya	18.7	13.3	7.0
Burma	(a)	3.3	1.7
Ceylon	3.7	3.2	2.3
Hong Kong	20.5	15.7	4.0
Palestine	27.6	16.3	8.8
<u>AMERICA</u>			
Canada	33.4	25.7	12.2
Other British America	6.5	6.3	3.0
<u>OCEANIA</u>			
Australian Commonwealth	40.2	39.8	18.8
New Zealand	7.3	8.0	4.2

(a) Not separately recorded.

Table VI - EXPORTS FROM GERMANY OF TWENTY PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES
TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.
(Calendar Years 1937 and 1938)

Commodities	Rank		Calendar Years	
	1937	1938	1937	1938
(Value in thousand reichsmarks)				
TOTAL EXPORTS			432,164	350,884
Miscellaneous iron goods	2	1	24,320	22,747
Machine tools	1	2	25,076	20,871
Cordage of silk, artificial silk, cellulose ...	7	3	14,049	14,761
Silk and artificial silk fabrics	3	4	20,360	13,615
Miscellaneous chemical producers' goods	6	5	15,171	13,470
Electrical products for industry	5	6	15,416	11,902
Paper and pulp	4	7	16,922	10,905
Toys	10	8	10,692	10,162
Articles of glass	9	9	11,522	10,102
Coal tar dyeing materials	8	10	12,037	10,073
Miscellaneous machinery	11	11	10,216	8,767
Clocks	12	12	10,158	7,856
Articles of copper and copper alloy	13	13	9,410	7,805
Machinery for the textile, leather and leather goods industry	17	14	6,605	7,257
Precision mechanical and optical products	18	15	6,400	7,120
Paper goods	14	16	9,076	7,109
Wool and other animal hair fabrics	15	17	8,841	6,858
Paper and printing machinery	16	18	7,129	6,493
Rods, plates, wire, etc., of copper and copper alloys	19	19	6,085	5,031
Miscellaneous dyes, varnish, lacquer	20	20	5,651	4,898

Table VII - EXPORTS FROM GERMANY OF TEN PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES TO BRITISH INDIA.
(Calendar Years 1937 and 1938)

Commodities	Rank		Calendar Years	
	1937	1938	1937	1938
(Value in thousand reichsmarks)				
TOTAL EXPORTS			147,591	106,558
Miscellaneous iron goods	1	1	18,026	12,536
Coal tar dyeing materials	2	2	15,660	8,022
Electrical products for industry	5	3	8,145	7,753
Rods, plates, wire, etc., of copper and copper alloys	4	4	8,486	7,639
Miscellaneous chemical producers' goods	3	5	9,216	6,692
Pharmaceutical products	7	6	6,081	4,822
Machinery for the textile, leather and leather goods industry	8	7	4,960	4,543
Paper and pulp	6	8	7,886	5,763
Paper and printing machinery	10	9	1,649	2,872
Rubber goods	9	10	2,761	2,551

Table VIII - EXPORTS FROM GERMANY OF FIFTEEN PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES TO CANADA
(Calendar Years 1937 and 1938)

Commodities	Rank		Calendar Years	
	1937	1938	1937	1938
(Value in thousand reichsmarks)				
<u>TOTAL EXPORTS</u>			53,400	25,706
Coal, including briquettes	1	1	4,051	4,957
Coal tar dyeing materials	2	2	2,259	1,778
Miscellaneous chemical producers' goods	3	3	1,774	1,503
Copper ore	8	4	700	1,385
Precision mechanical and optical products ..	5	5	988	1,079
Articles of glass	4	6	1,151	938
Toys, etc.	7	7	906	895
Miscellaneous iron goods	6	8	979	666
Cutlery	9	9	698	589
Articles of copper and copper alloy	11	10	530	485
Tools and agricultural implements	12	11	529	483
Musical instruments	15	12	461	461
Clocks	14	13	494	428
Stoneware, clay, earthenware, porcelain	10	14	577	412
Silk and artificial silk fabrics, etc.	13	15	524	404

Table IX - TOTAL IMPORTS INTO CERTAIN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES
AND PER CENT FROM GERMANY.
(From Latin American Statistics)

Countries	Total Imports (\$000)	1 9 3 8			
		Per cent of total imports from Germany %			
Argentina	389,920				10.1
Brazil	200,800				24.8
Chile (10 months)	85,000				25.9
Colombia (9 months)	68,797				17.5
Costa Rica (6 months)	6,100				20.8
Cuba	106,007				4.5
Dominican Republic (9 months)	8,419				7.7
Ecuador	11,064				24.1
El Salvador (8 months)	5,440				32.8
Guatemala	20,955				35.1
Haiti	7,600				6.4
Honduras	9,468				11.1
Mexico (6 months)	47,514				19.8
Nicaragua (9 months)	3,816				-
Panama	17,548				-
Peru	59,846				20.5
Uruguay (10 months)	34,806				10.2
Venezuela	52,839				11.4

Table X - EXPORTS FROM GERMANY OF FIFTEEN PRINCIPAL
(Calendar

Countries	Miscel-	Electrical	Auto-	Cast	Pharma-	Coke
	laneous	Products	mobiles			
	Iron	for	and Aero-		Products	
	Goods	Industry	planes			
Brazil	100 Kg.	179,618	32,965	31,428	375,558	3,588 157,820
	1,000 R.M.	8,992	9,249	8,501	7,872	9,313 346
Argentina	100 Kg.	219,889	55,159	33,971	465,687	3,049 140,120
	1,000 R.M.	16,846	11,308	6,789	5,973	6,387 299
Chile	100 Kg.	85,738	24,788	15,632	140,544	1,120 59,040
	1,000 R.M.	4,533	5,350	7,982	2,202	2,426 156
Mexico	100 Kg.	33,987	16,818	4,552	5,774	2,659 -
	1,000 R.M.	3,339	2,128	807	237	6,185 -
Colombia	100 Kg.	53,486	8,254	2,875	81,852	1,769 1,600
	1,000 R.M.	3,901	1,897	704	1,191	5,119 6
Venezuela	100 Kg.	75,480	6,053	3,917	33,319	1,019 2,190
	1,000 R.M.	4,200	1,395	988	377	2,113 5
Uruguay	100 Kg.	45,093	18,309	12,833	229,107	507 19,270
	1,000 R.M.	2,770	3,188	2,874	3,035	923 46
Peru	100 Kg.	38,973	8,757	10,147	2,160	700 29,710
	1,000 R.M.	2,907	1,548	2,191	66	1,591 82
Guatemala	100 Kg.	11,987	773	647	1,164	169 260
	1,000 R.M.	755	238	206	17	464 2
Cuba	100 Kg.	21,286	1,094	184	1,522	747 281,200
	1,000 R.M.	1,140	149	54	28	1,090 576
Bolivia	100 Kg.	8,593	1,920	1,284	1,529	229 1,610
	1,000 R.M.	802	392	343	47	432 6
Ecuador	100 Kg.	7,058	1,360	1,284	6,703	202 1,810
	1,000 R.M.	738	313	325	83	371 7
Costa Rica ...	100 Kg.	7,479	780	1,468	825	119 -
	1,000 R.M.	551	243	240	9	276 -
El Salvador ..	100 Kg.	5,544	438	998	-	151 -
	1,000 R.M.	269	128	277	-	342 -
Dominican	100 Kg.	5,037	35	3,450	3,679	153 -
Republic ...	1,000 R.M.	216	28	588	53	177 -
Honduras	100 Kg.	2,857	55	-	215	90 -
	1,000 R.M.	144	25	2	3	228 -
TOTAL	100 Kg.	802,105	177,558	124,670	1,349,638	16,271 694,630
	1,000 R.M.	52,103	37,579	32,871	21,193	37,437 1,531

COMMODITIES TO SIXTEEN PRINCIPAL LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

Year 1938)

Cotton Fabrics	Woollen Fabrics	Engines	Tools and Agricultural Im- plements			Machin- ery for Food In- dustry	Railway Building Materials	Iron Pipes
			Steel Piping	Agricul- tural Im- plements	Locomo- tives			
480	1,705	26,720	96,918	29,972	35,213	11,089	67,002	186
417	1,253	3,675	3,086	3,626	4,227	1,330	974	10
1,892	1,226	21,673	175,986	10,966	35,948	7,367	19,054	61,658
912	1,040	3,412	4,532	1,523	4,733	1,303	256	582
3,310	3,501	9,170	36,395	4,426	910	2,706	13,422	19,889
1,789	3,284	1,583	974	538	149	589	135	242
930	290	9,014	37,809	14,815	6	1,729	1,687	1,680
822	210	1,160	971	1,587	3	420	40	24
7,007	705	3,485	50,359	8,088	334	2,775	3,384	2,467
2,411	701	656	1,211	1,419	42	461	53	32
2,191	168	3,357	236,208	4,042	186	1,725	524	1,171
954	158	789	5,443	592	27	300	9	23
2,333	614	2,527	16,341	2,067	819	4,500	6,355	61
485	515	471	480	285	102	240	96	1
4,739	992	5,051	20,417	8,099	530	1,729	1,355	13,439
1,814	958	782	572	679	29	292	615	218
3,408	141	443	52,823	2,051	2,289	699	1,850	151,692
1,123	149	119	1,581	262	337	121	21	2,266
878	20	1,570	4,436	1,846	3	370	91	
380	18	295	93	235	1	67	3	
539	227	2,057	12,111	1,383	419	2,707	43,581	2,079
247	230	357	315	152	84	345	402	28
1,121	331	1,023	2,138	1,702	38	571	2,415	4,947
465	365	188	57	220	10	105	21	81
943	274	550	1,904	541	2	509	3,339	34,020
380	241	111	61	101	2	74	54	441
1,305	21	147	619	391	11	204	32	—
405	29	42	14	65	3	38	1	—
15	—	649	132	839	—	288	—	—
4	—	84	4	104	—	35	—	—
264	12	37	13,812	40	—	64	136	8,816
73	14	14	421	9	—	17	4	111
31,355	10,227	87,473	758,408	91,268	76,709	39,032	164,227	302,105
12,681	9,165	13,738	19,815	11,397	9,749	5,737	2,684	4,059

